

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. An electrode of a vacuum circuit breaker, comprising:
 - 2 a cup member having an opening and a periphery which is formed with a slit so
 - 3 as to form a coil section, an electric current flowing in the coil section so as to
 - 4 generate a longitudinal magnetic field in a direction along an axis of the cup member,
 - 5 the slit being bent and continuously extending on the periphery from a first end of
 - 6 the cup member to a second end of the cup member opposite to the first end of the
 - 7 cup member; and
 - 8 a contact shaped into a plate, and sealing the opening of the cup member.
- 1 2. The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 1, in which the
- 2 bent slit is formed stepwise.
- 1 3. The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 1, in which
- 2 the bent slit is a combination of:
 - 3 a first line segment having a first end which is substantially
 - 4 perpendicular to a reverse face of the contact, the reverse face sealing the opening of
 - 5 the cup member, and
 - 6 a second line segment continuously connected to a second end of the first
 - 7 line segment opposite to the first end of the first line segment; and
 - 8 the first segment and the second segment form an inclination.
- 1 4. The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 1, in which the
- 2 bent slit is plural in number.
- 1 5. The electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 1, in which the
- 2 contact is shaped substantially into a disk plate.
- 1 6. A method of producing an electrode of a vacuum circuit breaker, the electrode
- 2 comprising a cup member having an opening which is sealed with a contact shaped
- 3 into a plate, the cup member having a periphery which is formed with a slit so as to
- 4 form a coil section, an electric current flowing in the coil section so as to generate a

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5 longitudinal magnetic field in a direction along an axis of the cup member, the
6 method comprising the following operations of:

7 turning the cup member around the axis of the cup member by a predetermined
8 rotational feed angle relative to a tool; and

9 feeding the tool, in the direction along the axis of the cup member, relative to
10 the cup member during the turning operation of the cup member, so as to form the
11 slit which is bent and continuously extending on the periphery from a first end of the
12 cup member to a second end of the cup member opposite to the first end of the cup
13 member.

1 7. The method of producing the electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as
2 claimed in claim 6, in which the turning operation and the feeding operation are
3 carried out alternatively.

1 8. The method of producing the electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as
2 claimed in claim 6, in which the turning operation and the feeding operation are
3 carried out intermittently.

1 9. The method of producing the electrode of the vacuum circuit breaker as
2 claimed in claim 6, in which the tool is a drill.

1 10. A vacuum circuit breaker comprising:

2 a pair of a first electrode and a second electrode opposite to the first electrode,
3 each of the first electrode and the second electrode comprising:

4 a cup member having an opening and a periphery which is formed with a
5 slit so as to form a coil section, an electric current flowing in the coil section so as to
6 generate a longitudinal magnetic field in a direction along an axis of the cup member,
7 the slit being bent and continuously extending on the periphery from a first end of
8 the cup member to a second end of the cup member opposite to the first end of the
9 cup member; and

10 a contact shaped into a disk plate, and sealing the opening of the cup
11 member.

1 '11. The vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 10, in which the bent slit of
2 each of the first electrode and the second electrode is formed stepwise.

1 12. The vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 10, in which
2 the bent slit is a combination of:

3 a first line segment having a first end which is substantially
4 perpendicular to a reverse face of the contact, the reverse face sealing the opening of
5 the cup member, and

- 6 a second line segment continuously connected to a second end of the first
- 7 line segment opposite to the first end of the first line segment; and
- 8 the first segment and the second segment form an inclination.

1 13. The vacuum circuit breaker as claimed in claim 10, in which the bent slit is
2 plural in number.